

The Adventure of **Creation**

Andy Bannister



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REBEL FOR LIFE



An Environmental Crisis?

- Loss of biodiversity and growing extinction rates
- Deforestation
- Sea level rise
- Pollution, especially plastic in the oceans



“What signatures our species will leave in the strata! We remove whole mountain tops to plunder the coal they contain. The oceans dance with hundreds of thousands of tons of plastic waste, slowly settling into sea-floor sediments. Weaponry tests have dispersed artificial radionuclides globally. The burning of rainforests for monoculture production sends out smog-palls that settle into the soils of nations. A nitrogen spike, indicated in ice-cores and sediments, will be one of the key chemical insignias of the Anthropocene, caused by the mass global use of nitrogen-rich fertilizers and by fossil-fuel burning. Biodiversity levels

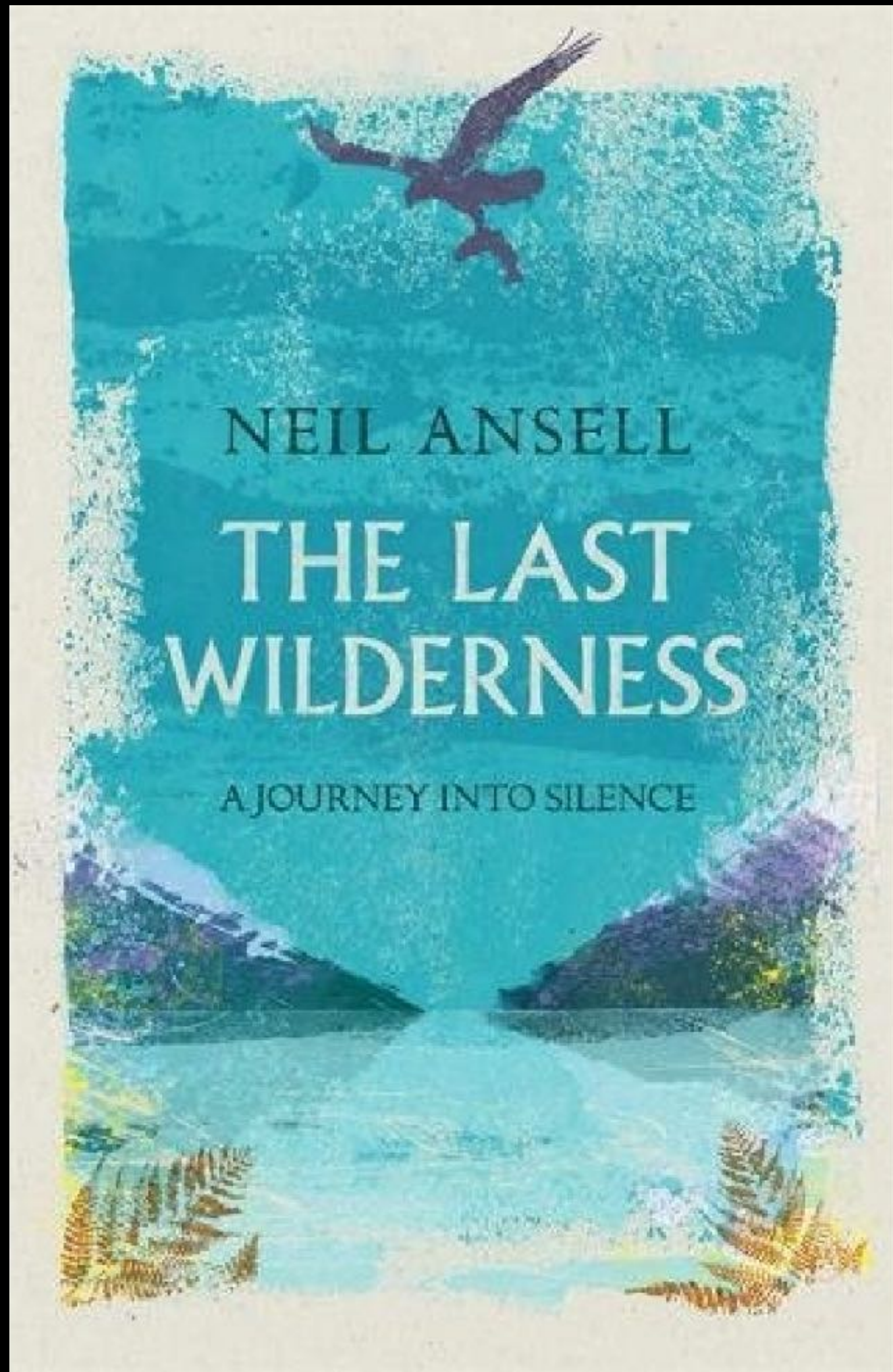


nations. A nitrogen spike, indicated in ice-cores and sediments, will be one of the key chemical insignias of the Anthropocene, caused by the mass global use of nitrogen-rich fertilizers and by fossil-fuel burning. Biodiversity levels are crashing worldwide as we hasten into the sixth great extinction event, while the soaring number of a small number of livestock species ensures the geological posterity in the fossil record of sheep, cows, and pigs. We have become titanic world-makers, our legacy legible for epochs to come.”

Robert Macfarlane

Underland: A Deep Time Journey (London: Hamish Hamilton, 2019) p76





“I was surprised to come upon a man in the depths of the woods. He had a shotgun cocked in the crook of his arm, and was wearing a deerstalker. He asked me if I had seen a big grey fox, and happily I was unable to help him. The ‘pine marten lady’ had warned me that many people locally had a relationship with wildlife that consisted almost exclusively of killing it it is a rather biblical outlook, to see the world solely as a resource placed there for our own benefit.”

Neil Ansell

The Last Wilderness: A Journey into Silence (London: Tinder Press, 2018) p182-183



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“I know who made the environment and he’s coming back and going to burn it all up. So, yes, I drive an SUV.”

Mark Driscoll

Catalyst Conference in Dallas, Texas

Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

Genesis 1:26 (RSV)

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Genesis 1:26 (RSV)





A scenic landscape featuring a calm lake in the foreground that perfectly reflects a row of tall, slender trees. In the background, a range of rugged, dark mountains rises against a clear blue sky. The slopes of the mountains are covered in green grass, and a winding path is visible on the right side. The overall scene is peaceful and majestic.

And God saw that it was good.

Genesis 1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25



“Aren’t two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father’s will.”



But **why** should we care?



Foundations for Environmentalism

Secular Attempts to Solve the Problem



Foundations for Environmentalism

Secular Attempts to Solve the Problem

- Appeal to emotion



THUNBERG

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SAVE OUR SEALIFE

SENTINELS OF THE SOUND BEACH CLEANUP

WEST SEATTLE ALKI BEACH

Saturday June 14, 2014 9:30am - 12:30pm

(meet at Statue of Liberty, Alki Ave and 61st Ave SW, please RSVP @ sealsitters.org)

Many thousands of marine animals die each year from derelict fishing gear, marine debris and pollution. They are entangled and drowned by nets and gear. Strangled and contaminated by plastics.

Make a difference and join us to remove litter from Alki Beach.

POLLUTION HAS A FACE

Sandy, a tiny seal pup, was rescued by Seal Sitters from a West Seattle beach in August of 2011. She was rehabilitated at PAWS Wildlife and, finally healthy, released back to the waters of Puget Sound.

Sandy was found dead sixty-six days later, entangled in derelict fishing line.

LET'S CLEAN UP OUR ACT

Help save sea birds, turtles and marine mammals. Pick up trash ~ protect wildlife and our fragile Salish Sea.



photo: PAWS
learn more about Sandy at www.sealsitters.org



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- Show how environmental care benefits us







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Foundations for Environmentalism

Secular Attempts to Solve the Problem

- Appeal to emotion
- Show how environmental care benefits us
- Claim that “we owe it to future generations”
- Point out that we are closely related to animals



96% of our DNA in common



Carbon atoms in common



60% of our DNA in common

Group Discussion

1. Do you agree that there isn't really a secular foundation for environmentalism?
2. If you're a Christian, how would we answer the question "Why should I care for the environment?"
3. If you wouldn't consider yourself a Christian, why do you think we should care?

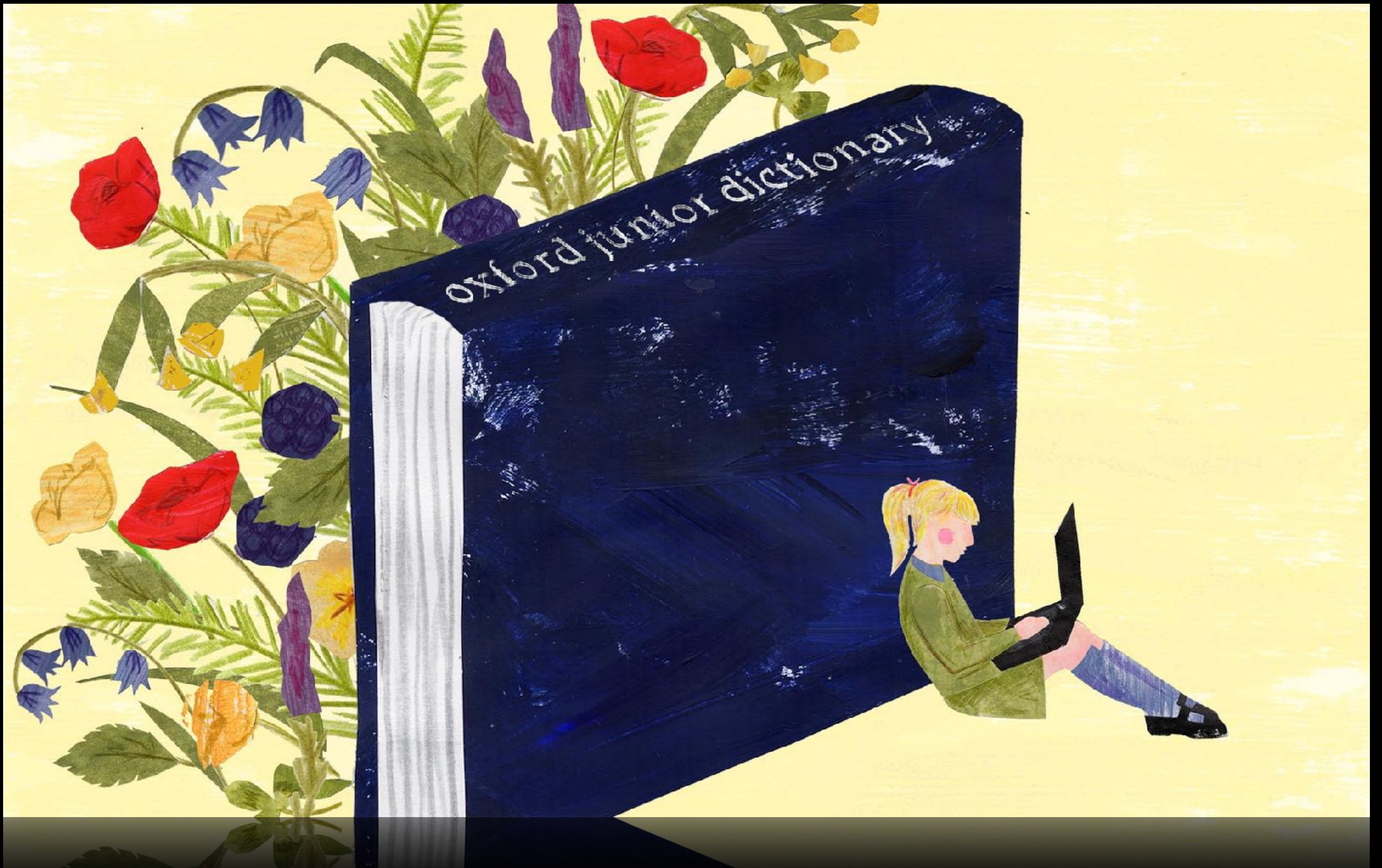


Environmental Claims are Moral Claims



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Gratitude



The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.
Day after day they pour forth speech;
night after night they reveal knowledge.
They have no speech, they use no words;
no sound is heard from them.
Yet their voice goes out into all the earth,
their words to the ends of the world.



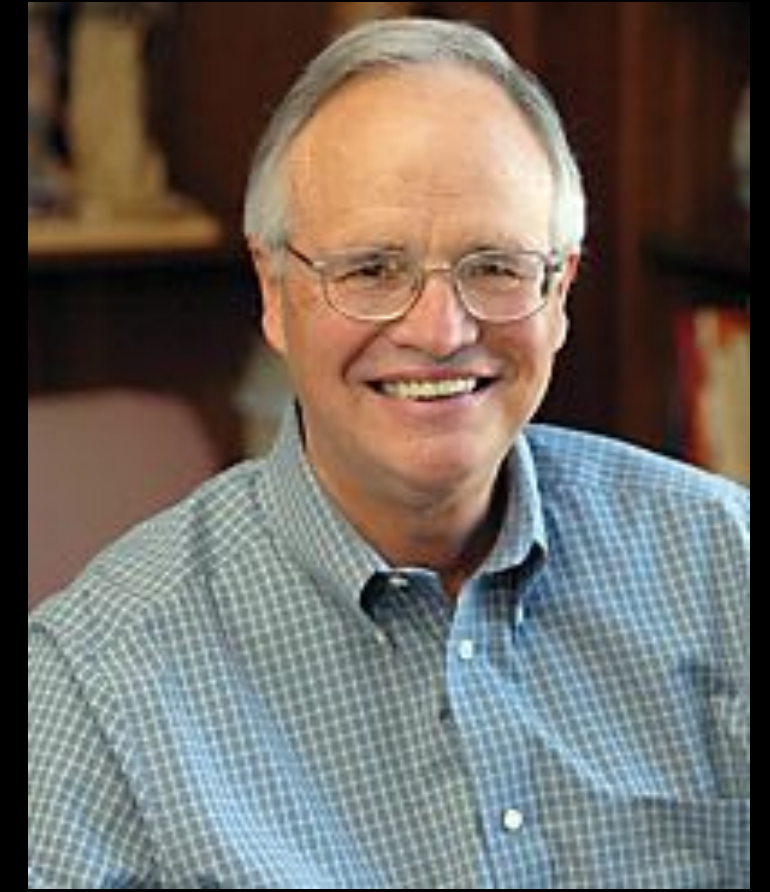
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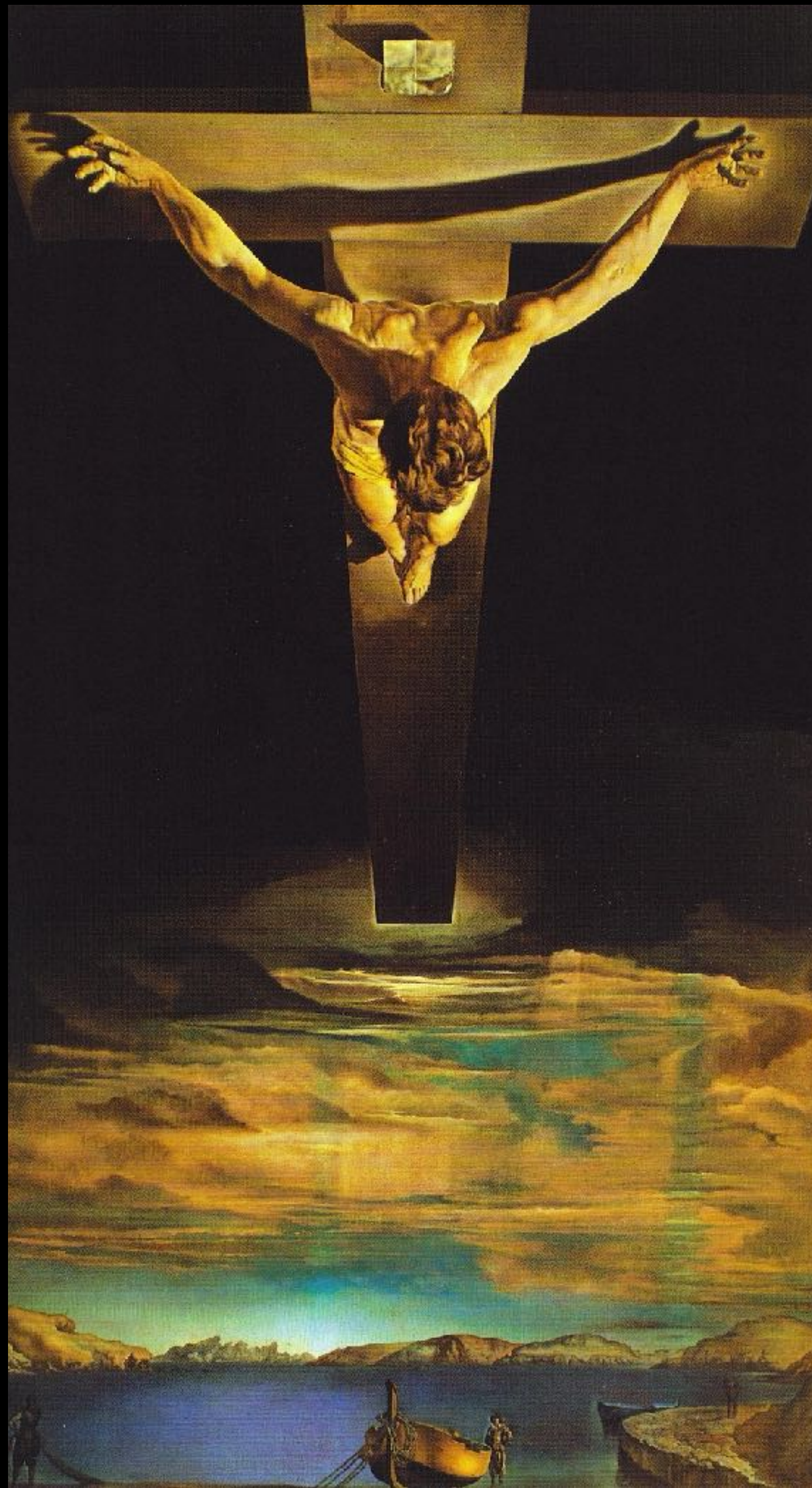


Gus Speth

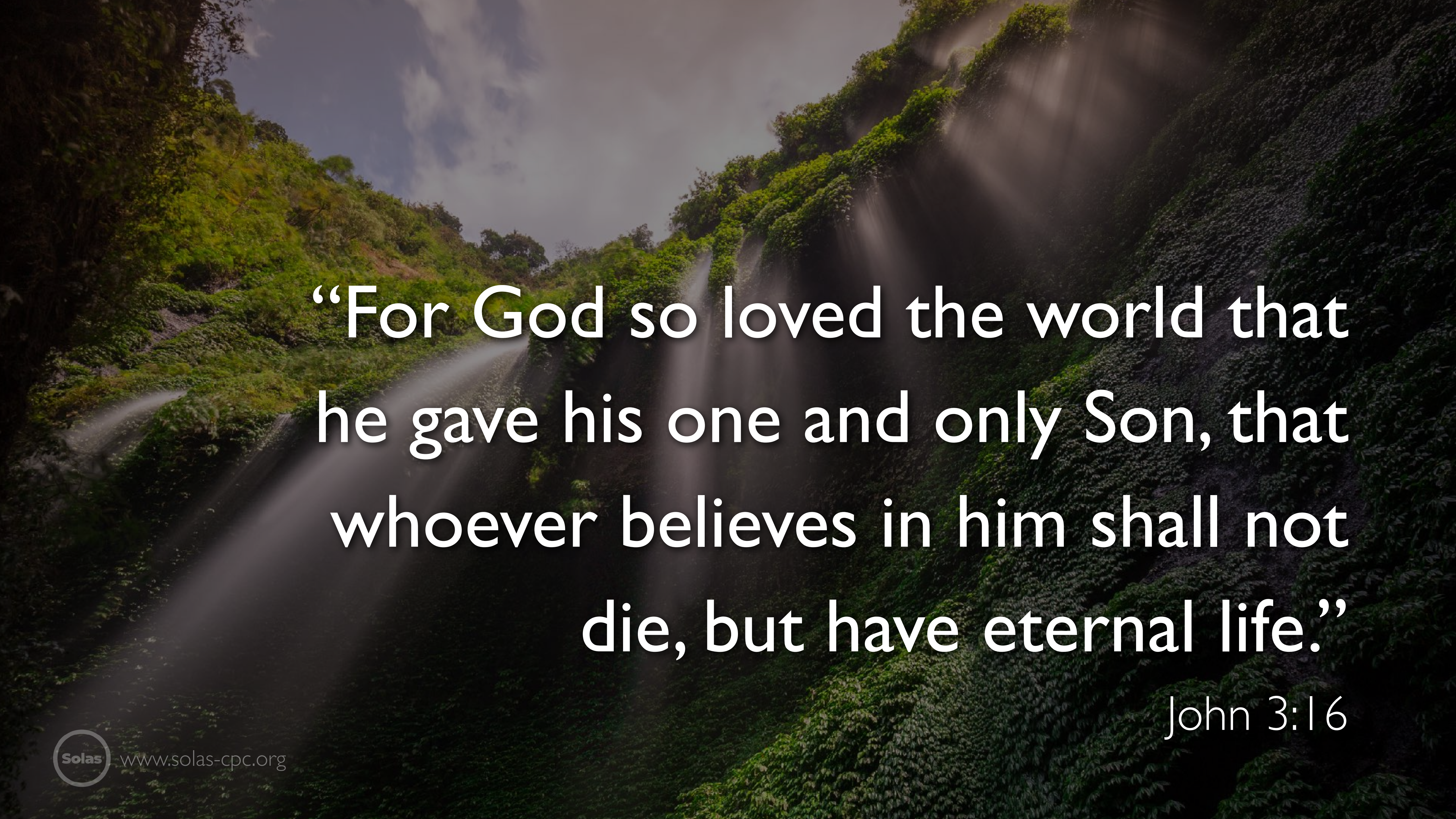
“I used to think that the top environmental problems were biodiversity loss, ecosystem collapse and climate change. I thought that thirty years of good science could address these problems. I was wrong. The top environmental problems are selfishness, greed, and apathy, and to deal with these we need a cultural and spiritual transformation. And we scientists don't know how to do that.”

Gus Speth





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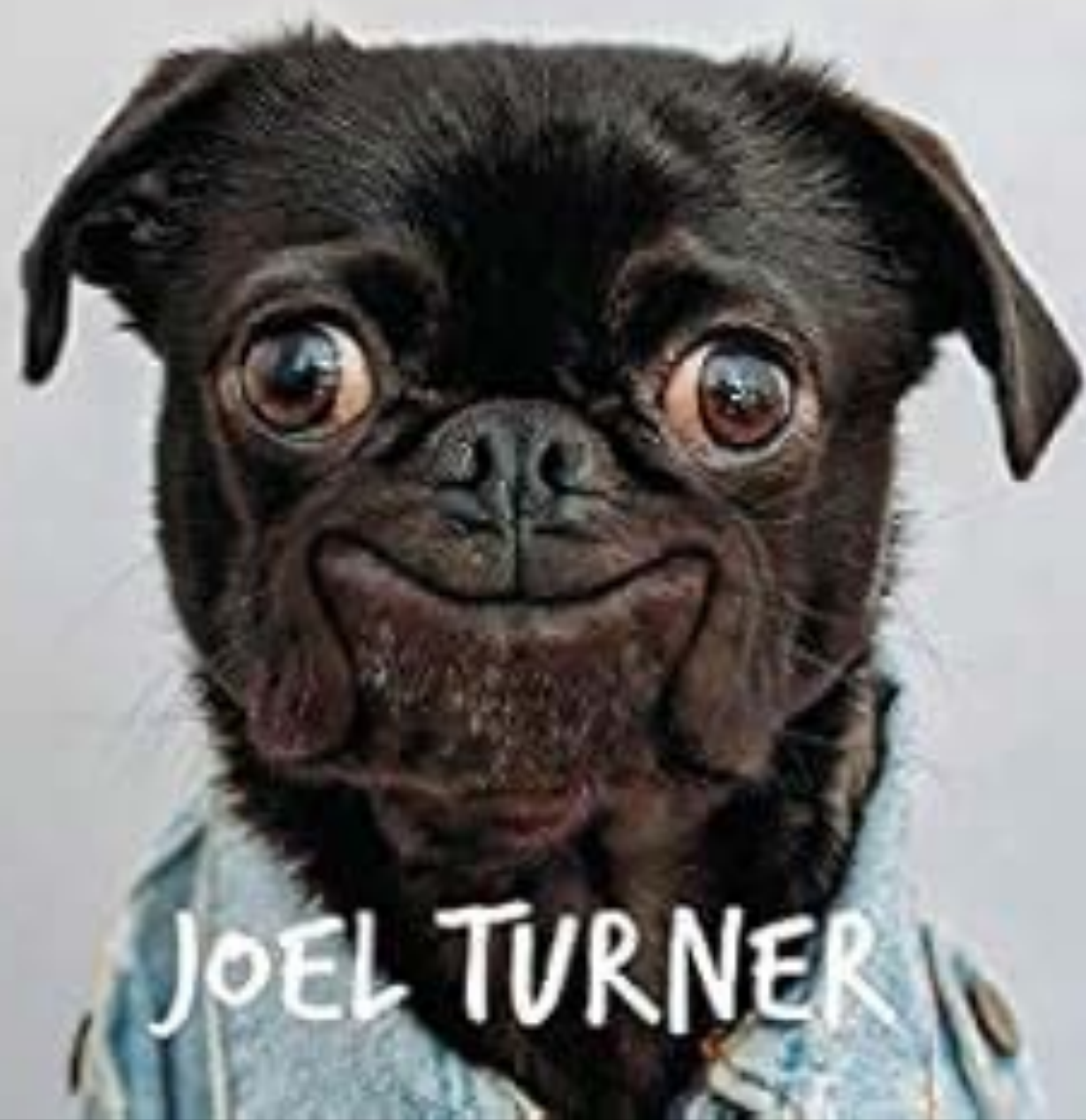
“For God so loved the world that
he gave his one and only Son, that
whoever believes in him shall not
die, but have eternal life.”

John 3:16

"I FIND JOEL VERY ATTRACTIVE." -JOEL'S WIFE

HUMOR Me

HOW TO ADD COMEDY TO YOUR BRAIN,
YOUR LIFE, AND YOUR MESSAGE



JOEL TURNER

Edited by
ANDY BANNISTER
GAVIN MATTHEWS

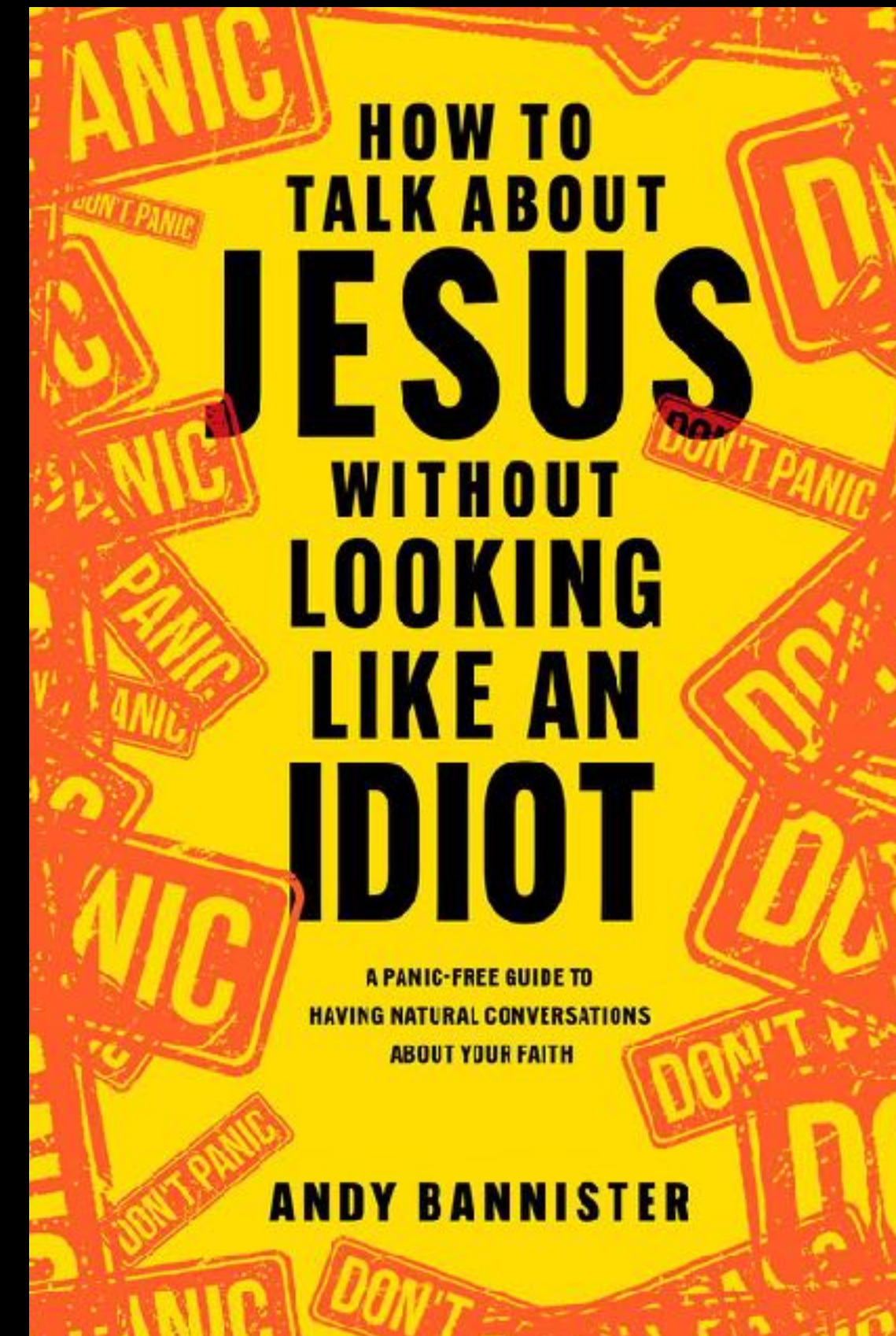
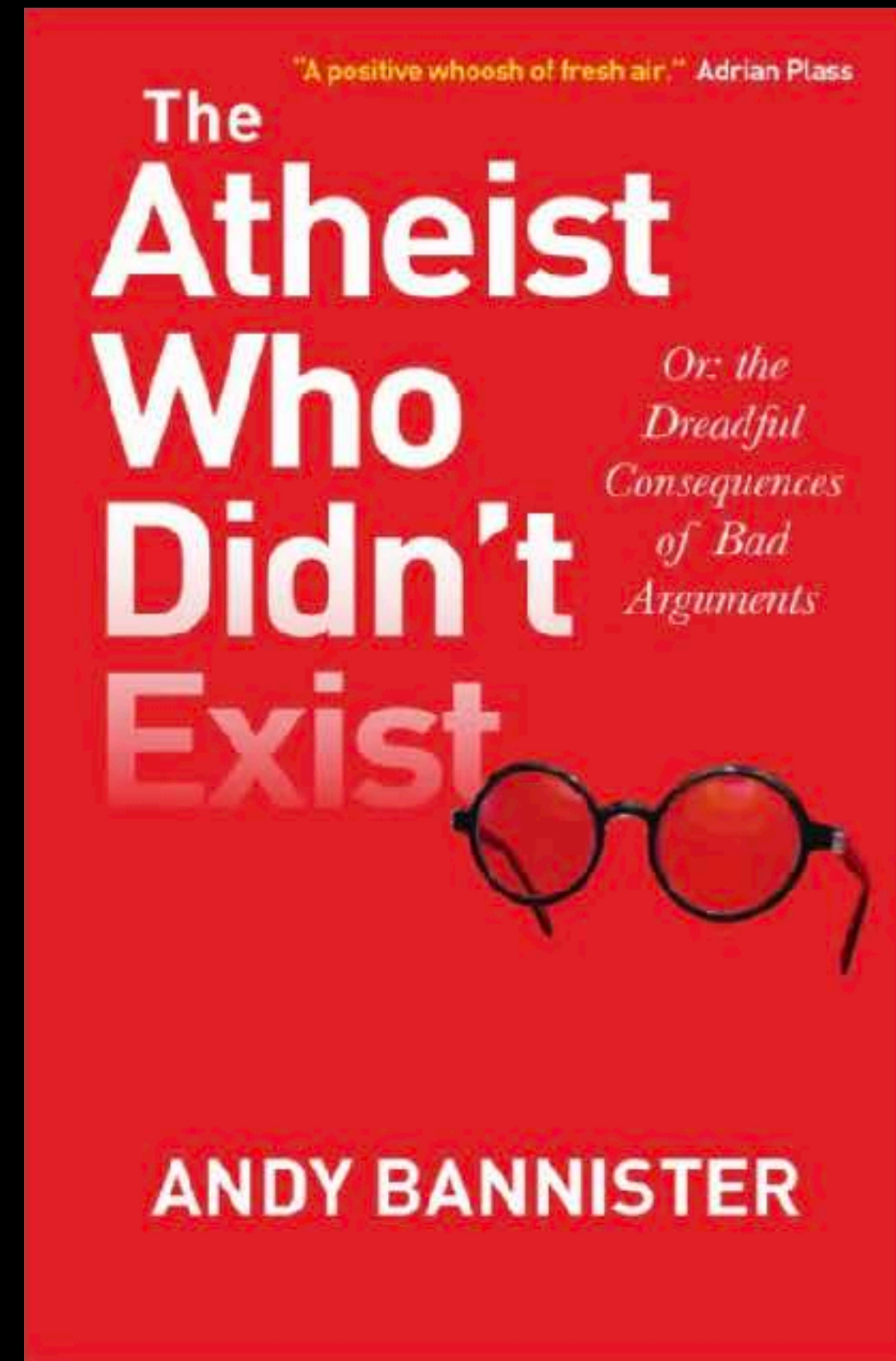
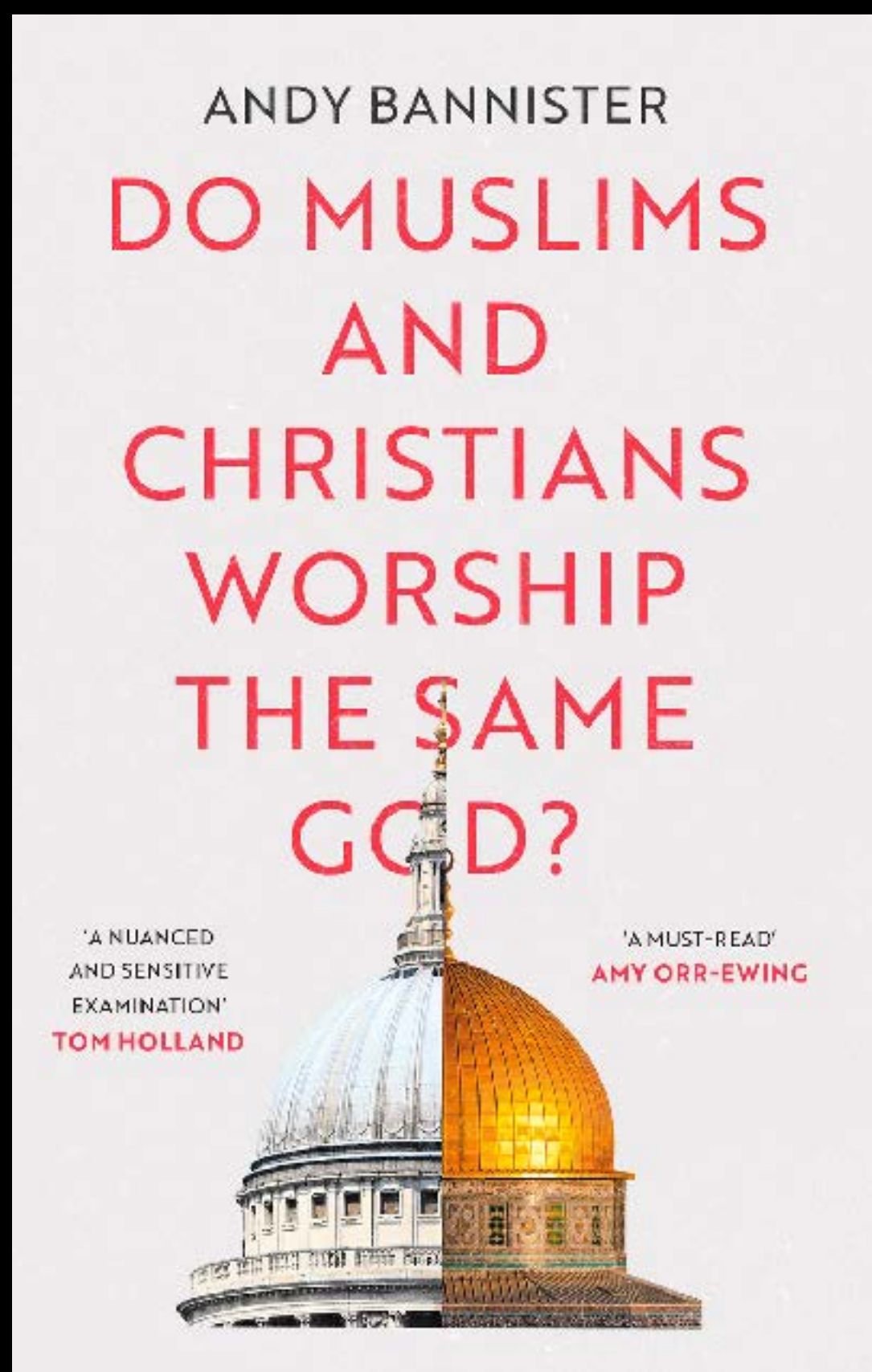
HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED?

Finding the

Everyday Clues to

Meaning,

Purpose & Spirituality



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